

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1-9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented)      A rotating disk for an apparatus that fabricates a thermoelectric material consisting essentially of:  
a disk and a stem the supporting the disk,  
wherein the disk and the stem have a uniform integral structure.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended)      An apparatus for fabricating a thermoelectric material comprising ~~consisting essentially of~~:  
a container for mixing and heat-melting raw material having a predetermined composition;  
means for pouring the molten metal of the heat-melted raw material;  
and  
a rotating disk for scattering the poured molten metal;  
wherein the rotating disk has a disk and a stem, and the disk and the stem have a uniform integral structure made of silicon nitride or a material containing silicon nitride.

13. (previously presented)      The apparatus for fabricating a thermoelectric material as defined in claim 12, wherein the means for pouring the molten metal of the heat-melted raw material includes a funnel.

14. (previously presented)      The apparatus for fabricating a thermoelectric material as defined in claim 12, wherein the means for pouring the molten metal of the heat-melted raw material includes a pouring port.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus for fabricating a thermoelectric material comprising ~~consisting essentially of~~:

- a container for mixing and heat-melting raw material having a predetermined composition;
- means for pouring the molten metal of the heat-melted raw material;
- and
- a rotating disk for scattering the poured molten metal;

wherein the rotating disk has a disk and a stem, and the disk and the stem have a uniform integral structure made of  $\beta$ -sialon having the formula:



16. (previously presented) The rotating disk as defined in claim 10, wherein the stem and the disk are made of  $\beta$ -sialon having the formula:

